SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING & REGULATION BEFORE THE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

In the Matter of:

JEAN MCKEE-THOMPSON, D.V.M. License No. VET.732

CONSENT AGREEMENT

OIE # 2012-39

Respondent.

By agreement of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for South Carolina (the Board) and the above-named Respondent, the following disposition of this matter is entered pursuant to the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-320(f) (1976, as amended), in lieu of, *inter alia*, a hearing before the Board. Respondent, admitting the allegations herein and agreeing to the sanctions as set forth below, agrees to waive the formal hearing procedures.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Respondent admits that she is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of South Carolina, was so licensed at all times relevant to the matters asserted in this case and that the South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners has jurisdiction over this matter.
- Respondent admits that she is a veterinarian at Sea Islands Veterinary Hospital located in Charleston, South Carolina.
- 3. Respondent admits that having established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship, she failed to comply with the Board's standards for veterinary medicine in the following particulars:
 - a. From about December 18, 2010 to about October 11, 2012, Respondent repeatedly prescribed controlled substances for two of her own dogs without keeping proper records justifying the prescribing.
 - b. Respondent did maintain records on each animal and provided them to the investigator on the case, but those records were insufficiently documented to meet the standards of the statutes and regulations regarding the practice of veterinary medicine.
- 4. On a voluntary basis, Respondent underwent an evaluation with Comprehensive Psychiatric Care Specialists, a practice on the approved list of the Recovering Professional Program, and was "cleared to practice Veterinarian [sic] Medicine in South

Carolina with reasonable skill and safety." In addition, she did "not meet criteria for any psychiatric or substance use disorder."

Respondent waives any further findings of fact with respect to this matter.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent further admits that as a result of the previous admissions herein, Respondent has violated S.C. Code of Laws § 40-69-110(A)(1) (1976, as amended) and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 120-8 (1976, as amended). Respondent hereby waives any further conclusions of law with respect to this matter.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED WITH RESPONDENT'S CONSENT THAT:

- Respondent shall be publicly reprimanded.
- Respondent shall pay a fine of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to the Board. Payment
 must be made within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Agreement.
 Respondent shall finance the costs of investigation of the Complaint.
- 3. Respondent shall, at her own expense, successfully complete a pre-approved course(s) on Ethics consisting of at least three (3) hours, within six (6) months of the effective date of this Agreement. These hours used for the deficiency cannot be used for the current renewal period's continuing education requirements. Failure to comply with this requirement within the prescribed time shall automatically result in the immediate temporary suspension of Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine until such time as full compliance has been made by Respondent.
- 4. Respondent shall, at her own expense, successfully complete a pre-approved course(s) in prescribing matters consisting of at least three (3) hours, within six (6) months of the effective date of this Agreement. These hours used for the deficiency cannot be used for the current renewal period's continuing education requirements. Failure to comply with this requirement within the prescribed time shall automatically result in the immediate temporary suspension of Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine until such time as full compliance has been made by Respondent. Respondent has already submitted documentation substantiating completion of all three (3) hours of this requirement during the pendency of this matter, so this requirement is now complete. Documentation of these hours is attached and incorporated as Exhibit #1.
- 5. Respondent shall pay, within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Agreement, the costs of investigation, Two Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$225.00). Failure to comply with this requirement within the prescribed time shall automatically result in the immediate temporary suspension of Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine until such time as full compliance has been made by Respondent.
- Respondent shall appear and report to the Board as requested by the Board.

7. Respondent shall promptly advise this Board in writing of any changes in address, practice, hospital privileges, professional status, or compliance with this agreement. Correspondence and copies of reports and notices mentioned herein shall be directed to:

SC LLR – Office of Licensure & Compliance ATTN: Compliance Manager – Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners P.O. Box 11329 Columbia, SC 29211

- 8. It is understood and agreed that Respondent has full knowledge that she has the right to a hearing and to be represented by counsel in this matter, and freely, knowingly, and voluntarily waives such rights by entering into this Consent Agreement. Respondent understands and agrees that by entering into this Consent Agreement, she voluntarily relinquishes any right to judicial review of this or any other Board action(s) which may be taken concerning this and any related matters. Respondent waives statutory right to notice of any hearing held with respect to this Consent Agreement. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Agreement will not become effective unless and until approved by the Board.
- 9. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Agreement will not become effective unless and until approved by the Board. It is further understood and agreed that, pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 30-4-10 to -165 (1976, as amended), this Consent Agreement is a public document.
- 10. It is understood and agreed that if Respondent fails to meet the conditions agreed to in this Consent Agreement, Respondent's license may be immediately administratively suspended pending compliance. Non-compliance may result in further discipline. Any license law violations by Respondent constitute a failure to meet the conditions of this Consent Agreement.
- 11. This Consent Agreement shall take effect immediately upon acceptance by the Board.
- Respondent understands and agrees that a representative of the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and Respondent may be present during presentation of this Consent Agreement to the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that if this Consent Agreement is not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the right of the Board to adjudicate this matter.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

8/7/14

SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

7-18-14 Date 7/23/14

OSWALD H. KING III D.V.M. CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD

WE CONSENT:

EAN MCKEE THOMPSON, D.V.M.

RESPONDENT

ERIN G. BALDWIN

ATTORNEY for the S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Office of Disciplinary Counsel

O. Box 11329

Columbia, SC 29211-1329

803) 896-4581

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